Guidelines for Humanities Scholar Nominations

The goal of the Scholar Nominations is to identify and pursue outstanding candidates whose work could make significant and generative contributions to Brown in the humanities. Humanities Scholars will:

- be appointed primarily to develop innovative collaborative programs of teaching and research between departments and programs, rather than to address departmental needs.
- organize new teaching and research programs that accentuate or galvanize strengths of Brown faculty and students from a range of fields (their capacity to stimulate such connections will be a key criterion in the evaluation and vetting of candidates in a way that is similar to the process of recruiting prospective heads of centers or initiatives).
- teach in ways that emphasize collaboration, including team-taught undergraduate courses focusing on the questions of broad social import from diverse perspectives in the humanities or between the humanities and other disciplinary fields as well as other alternative course and teaching formats hosted by the Cogut Center or other appropriate centers, institutes, and programs.
- form a pool that is permanently separate from regular department rosters (positions revert to the Dean of Faculty on becoming vacant and are filled through a new recruitment of fresh candidates who meet with the goals of the initiative).

Submission Process: Groups of two or more faculty members (at least half the group should be humanists) representing different fields should submit nominations consisting of a CV and a brief (2-3 page) nomination statement to dean_of_faculty@brown.edu with the subject line "Humanities Initiative Scholar Nomination." The Humanities Initiative Advisory Committee, a committee appointed by the Dean of the Faculty, will review the nominations and select those most aligned to the goals of the Humanities Initiative. The steps in the nomination process are detailed below.

1. Scholar Nominations may be made at any time, keeping in mind that the Humanities Initiative Advisory Committee prefers submission to coincide with the Research and Teaching Fund deadlines (April 1st and October 1st) and that the Committee does not meet over the summer.
2. The Humanities Initiative Advisory Committee reviews the nominations and selects those to pursue. The Committee may select more than one or may determine that none of the nominations are well aligned to the Initiative.
3. Invitations are sent to the selected nominee(s), who will be asked to provide a written outline of the collaborative work they would undertake at Brown.
4. The nominee’s visit to campus is organized through the Dean of the Faculty’s Office.
5. After the visit, the Humanities Initiative Advisory Committee polls departmental participants, reviews the case again, and makes a recommendation to the Dean of the Faculty.
6. If the recommendation is positive, a standard senior hire process begins, including preparation of a dossier for review by the Tenure, Promotions, and Appointments Committee (TPAC).

The teaching responsibilities associated with these positions are split, with half of the teaching to be conducted in the department(s) hosting the position and the other half devoted to collaborative teaching projects across disciplines involving either another University Professor of Humanities or regular Brown faculty. Teaching will include such activities as leading an interdisciplinary undergraduate or graduate seminar at the Cogut Center or other appropriate institute, cross-disciplinary team teaching, collaborative teaching that involves bringing visitors to Brown, overseeing collaborative based programming such as lectures, performances, exhibits, installations, etc.